

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

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OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY

22 MAR 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR Director, Program B
Director, Program D

SUBJECT: Future Needs for U-2 Aircraft

Reference is made to my memorandum of 22 March 1965 to Director, Program B, subject: "FY 1966 thru 1971 Program Cost Estimates." In the FY 1967 Budget Estimate Portion, it was indicated that the Director, Program B, may desire to propose the procurement of additional improved U-2's for delivery in FY 1968.

If the Program B and JCS estimates for future U-2 utilization and attrition are accurate, it may be necessary for the NRO to procure additional aircraft. On 1 September 1964, the Director, Program B, projected NRO usage of the U-2 through 1969 (reverified in a 3 February 1965 memorandum to the DNRO). On 16 February 1965, the JCS recommended to the Secretary of Defense that U-2's be retained in the SAC inventory at least through FY 1968.

Neither of these efforts appears to completely answer such questions as:

- a. Where are the probable areas of operation for the U-2 in the 1967-1970 time period?
- b. What are the estimated U-2 survival rates against the projected defenses in those areas?
- c. What world areas are likely to be denied to the U-2 because of sophisticated air defense systems?

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d. How does the U-2 collection capability complement that of other reconnaissance systems which will be operational in 1967 (A-12/SR-71, TAGBOARD, advanced follow-on [REDACTED] advanced [REDACTED] new search/surveillance satellite system)?

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I desire that the two of you, in conjunction with the NRO Staff, undertake a study directed toward the above questions. Additionally, if the results favor the buy of additional U-2's, your study should also indicate the characteristics of an improved model, the sensor requirements, plus a procurement plan.

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[REDACTED]
Brockway McMillan
Director
National Reconnaissance Office

Series B:

- 1-DAD/OSA
- 2-D/FA/OSA
- 3-D/TECH/OSA
- 4-PS/OSA
- 5-MD/OSA

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